

Amendments to the Drawings:

The attached sheet of drawings includes changes to Figure 5. This sheet replaces the original sheet including Figure 5. In Figure 5, descriptions have been added to each of the drawing elements.

Attachments: Replacement Sheet
Annotated Sheet Showing Changes

REMARKS

A. GENERALLY

Claims 1-5 and 7-9 remain in the Application. Claims 1, 3-5, and 7-9 have been amended. Claims 6, 10, and 11 have been canceled. No new matter has been added.

B. OBJECTIONS TO THE DISCLOSURE

With respect to the disclosure objection, Applicants respectfully decline to add section headings because the indicated suggestions in 37 C.F.R. § 1.77(b) are not statutorily required for filing a non-provisional patent application under 35 USC § 111(a), but per 37 C.F.R. § 1.51(d) are only guidelines that are suggested for Applicants' use. Thus, the section headings are not mandatory, and in fact when Rule 77 was amended in 1996 (61 FR 42790, Aug. 19, 1996), Bruce A. Lehman, Assistant Secretary of Commerce and Commissioner of Patents and Trademarks, stated in the Official Gazette:

"Section 1.77 is permissive rather than mandatory. ... 1.77 merely expresses the Office's preference for the arrangement of the application elements. The Office may advise an applicant that the application does not comply with the format set forth in 1.77, and suggest this format for the applicant's consideration; however, the Office will not require any application to comply with the format set forth in 1.77."

In view of the above, Applicants respectfully decline to amend the specification to include the suggested section headings, and respectfully request that this objection be withdrawn.

C. CLAIMS REJECTIONS

1. Claim Rejections Pursuant to 35 U.S.C. § 102

Claims 1-11 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent 6,522,192 issued to Sander (hereinafter, "Sander"). The Office Action asserts that Figure 4 and the Abstract of Sander teaches the limitations of claim 1-11. Figure 4 is set forth below:

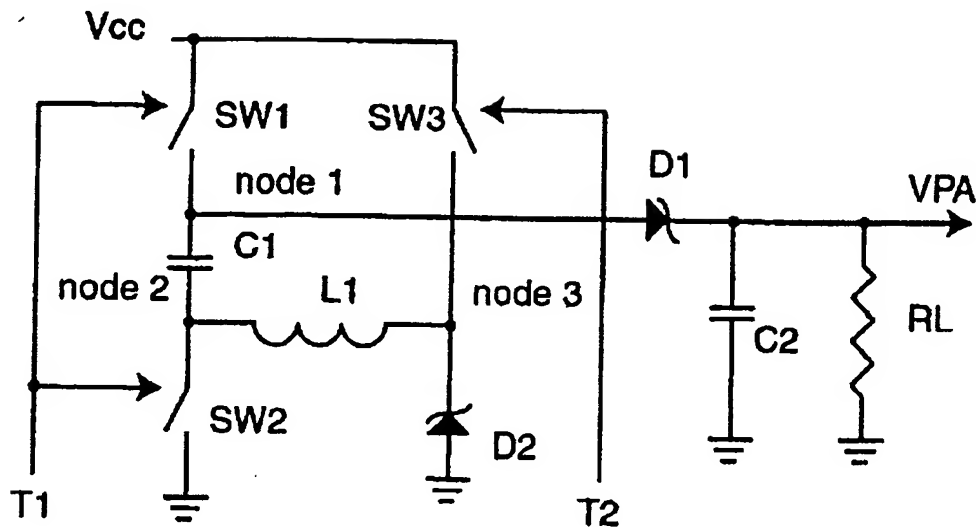


Fig. 4

Sander describes the invention as follows:

The present invention, generally speaking, provides a circuit that combines the features of a voltage doubler and a boost regulator to achieve a small and efficient voltage boost regulator. A capacitor is used to provide a primary voltage boost effect. An inductor is used to provide further regulation, either further boost or buck. Instead of requiring non-overlapping clock signals, the relative timing and overlap of the clock signals determines the regulation achieved. The inductor can be made significantly smaller than in comparable boost circuits, facilitating size reduction. (Sander, Abstract.)

Claim 1 (as amended) recites the following limitations:

1. (Currently Amended) A boost converter having voltage selectable modes comprising:
 - a selection terminal, wherein the selection terminal is associated with a voltage V_{in} ;
 - a capacitive boost circuit, wherein the capacitive boost circuit is utilized in a capacitive mode;
 - an inductive boost circuit, wherein the inductive boost circuit is utilized in an inductive mode;
 - a first comparator, wherein the first comparator is configured to compare V_{in} to a reference voltage V_{ref} and to select the capacitive mode if $V_{in} > V_{ref}$ and to select the inductive mode if $V_{in} < V_{ref}$.

As is clear from the circuit illustrated in Figure 4 and the text of the Abstract, Sander describes a boost circuit that utilizes both capacitive and inductive circuits. However, the circuits are not independently selectable. That is, mode of operation is not determinable by “a

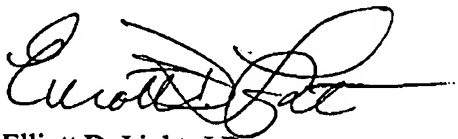
first comparator, wherein the first comparator is configured to compare V_{in} to a reference voltage V_{ref} and to select the capacitive mode if $V_{in} > V_{ref}$ and to select the inductive mode if $V_{in} < V_{ref}$ as recited in claim 1 (as amended). Similar limitations are recited in claims 8 (as amended) and 9 (as amended). Based on the foregoing, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1, 8 and 9 as currently listed are not anticipated by Sander.

Claims 2-5 and 7 depend directly or indirectly from claim 1 and recite all of the limitations of that base claim. Based on the foregoing, claims 2-5 and 7 recite limitations not taught or reasonably suggested by Sander and are not anticipated by that reference.

D. CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims as currently listed are in condition for allowance. Applicant requests that this response be entered and that the current rejections of the claims now pending in this application be withdrawn in view of the above amendments, remarks and arguments.

Respectfully submitted,



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ATTACHMENTS:

1. Replacement Abstract
2. Replacement Sheets for Figure 5
3. Annotated Sheet Showing Changes in Figure 5